(d) and (e) Shatabdi Express trains have a separate fare structure keeping in view the specialised service provided therein including fast travel. Even though Railways take efforts to absorb the increase in input costs, certain adjustments in tariff are unavoidable.

Unauthorised vendors at platforme on the New Delhi Station

8081. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about four hundred persons are selling all kinds of eatables, etc. at various platforms of New Delhi Railway Station unauthorisedly without any licence with the help of Government police;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Railway Catering Department has been incurring loss of lakhs of rupees on account of non-payment of licence fee by these unauthorised vendors; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to check such unauthorised vending business on platforms?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Catering, excluding fruit & fruit juice, at New Delhi Railway Station is run departmentally through commission vendors. Cases of unauthorised vending at New Delhi Railway Station come to notice from time to time. In the drives conducted from Nov. '94 to 20-5-95, 709 unauthorised vendors including those of eatables, were apprehended and a fine of Rs. 1,59,892 realised from them. Loss on account of unauthorised vending, it however not quantifiable.

(c) Hawking/selling eatables or articles by unauthorised vendors/hawkers in trains and on station premises is an offence under Section 144 of the Railways Act, 1989. To eradicate this menace Task force consisting of ticket checking staff and Railway Protection Special Force has been formed. Persons so apprehended are dealt with in accordance with Railway rules.

Construction of Rayaguda-Gopalpur Port, Malkangiri-Jeypore and Talcher-Gopalpur rail lines

8082. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for construction of Rayaguda-Gapalpur Port, Malkangiri-Jeypore and Talcher-Gopalpur rail lines has been pending with Government since long;

(b) whether there have been growing demand from Orissa to take up construction of these lines; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to consider the construction of these lines?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There has been some representations to take up the construction of these lines.

(c) The survey conducted for Talcher-Gopalpur rail line indicated a rate of return below the desirred level. There is no proposal for construction of the other two lines.

Contract for earthwork by CCI at Bombay

8083. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Container Corporation of India Limited, Bombay has given contract for earthwork at various place, in and around Bombay, during the last one year;

(b) if so, what are the names of companies who have been given this earthwork contract, with the value of each contract; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Container Corporation of India Limited are likely to float tenders for earthwork in and around Bombay during the next six months and if so, what are the complete details thereof, with the value of each tender?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Only one contract for earthwork at New Mulund has been awarded during last one year. The contract has been awarded to M/s Thakur Construction. The value of the work is Rs. 5,50,000/- (Rupees five lakhs fifty thousand only).

(c) There is no such proposal for the present.

यात्री-किराए की वापसी में विलम्ब होने पर ब्याज का भुगतान करने के लिये उपभोक्ता न्यायालय का निर्देश

8084. **श्रीमती आनन्दीबेन जेठाभाई पटेल** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में उपभोक्ता न्यायालय ने रेलवे को यह आदेश दिया है कि यदि रेलवे विभाग रेल किराए को दो सप्ताह के भीतर वापस करने में विफल रहता है तो उसे रेल-किराए की धनराशि पर ब्याज का भुगतान भी करना पड़ेगा ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) उन राज्यों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जिनमें ये आदेश लागू होंगे ; और

(घ) उनका राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ) (क) और (ख) दो अलग-अलग मामलों में, जिला उपभोक्ता न्यायालय ने रेलवे को, विलंब से धन वापसी पर ब्याज का भुगतान करने के आदेश दिए थे । लेकिन राज्य आयोग दिल्ली द्वारा इन आदेशों को रद्द कर दिया गया था ।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Gauge conversion of Mangalore-Arsikere and Bogalkot-Gadag rail lines

8085. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rapid pace of industrialisation of Mangalore in Karnataka with steel, refinery, petrochemical and thermal power plant projects coming up in a big way and if so, whether any plans have been mooted to convert the rail lines from, Mangalore-Arsikere and Bogalkot-Gadag, to broad gauge;

(b) whether the Centre has studied the techno-economic study for the gauge convension prepared by M/s. Jaiprakash Engg. & Steel Company Limited and its comments thereon; and

(c) whether the Railways would ensure that investors do not back out from such projects on the plea of inadequate rail linkage of Mangalore with coal and ore-mining areas?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. The Gauge Conversion of both the lines has been taken up.

(b) M/s. Jaiprakash Engg. & Steel Company Ltd. has since dropped the proposal.

(c) Adequate rail linkages wherever found necessary are being provided.

Expenditure on hiring aircrafts

8086. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: